



Armstrong International Welcomes ExpressJet to New Orleans

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE --- February 5, 2007 --- Today, the Louis Armstrong New Orleans International Airport welcomes ExpressJet Airlines to New Orleans.

ExpressJet will begin service Summer 2007 and will offer non-stop service to Austin, San Antonio, Kansas City, Mo., Birmingham, Jacksonville, Fl., and Raleigh-Durham with 12 flights per day.

This announcement comes at a critical time when the city and region are trying to grow the tourism economy back to pre-Katrina levels. This announcement will be a boost in the return of air service in New Orleans. With these ExpressJet flights, Armstrong International Airport will have 121 daily departures to 38 destinations with over 13,700 seats pushing Armstrong to the 75% mark of percentage of flights returned to the city.

Interim Director of Aviation Sean Hunter stated, "We're delighted to welcome ExpressJet to Armstrong International Airport. Receiving a new carrier, six new destinations and twelve additional flights per day are significant steps toward returning to pre-Katrina levels of air service."

"We commend ExpressJet for recognizing and seizing the opportunity in this market. Our citizens and businesses have consistently asked for more flights and non-stop destinations. These are some of the most requested cities. Visiting or doing business in the N.O. area just got a little easier!" continued Chairman of the New Orleans Aviation Board Dan Packer.

City of New Orleans Mayor C. Ray Nagin stated, "This is a great commitment to our community as we work together to rebuild One New Orleans. We are proud to be a part of ExpressJet's network. This is a great boost to our local economy by bringing jobs to the region and visitors from six markets to the New Orleans to enjoy our food, music and culture."

Steve Perry, President of the New Orleans Metropolitan Convention and Visitors Bureau stated, "ExpressJet Airlines' announcement signals another crucial and positive milestone toward our city and our industry's continued recovery, marking a significant impact on the regional and local economy, offering increased job opportunities, and supporting the continuing enhancements to the facilities at Louis Armstrong International Airport."

"A vibrant airport is key to the growth of our economy and our tourism industry," said Lt. Governor Mitch Landrieu. "Today's announcement that Louis Armstrong New Orleans International Airport is welcoming ExpressJet Airlines to New Orleans is a significant milestone for our region."

ExpressJet will bring the total airlines serving Armstrong International to 10 air carriers.

For further information on Armstrong International Airport, refer to the Airport's web site at www.flymsy.com.

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